

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

SUB A1

1. A method for interfacing an object oriented software application with a relational database, comprising the steps of:

selecting an object model;

generating a map of at least some relationships between schema in the database and the selected object model;

employing the map to create at least one interface object that corresponds with an object associated with the object oriented software application; and

Utilizing said at least one interface object with the object oriented application to access data from the relational database.

2. The method of claim 1 further including the step of mapping a class attribute to a table column.

3. The method of claim 1 further including the step of mapping a class attribute to a 1-1 relationship.

4. The method of claim 1 further including the step of mapping a class attribute to a 1-N relationship, where N is an integer that is greater than 1.

5. The method of claim 1 further including the step of mapping a class attribute to an N-N relationship, where N is an integer that is greater than 1.

6. The method of claim 1 further including the step of mapping class inheritance to rows within a table.

7. The method of claim 1 further including the step of mapping class inheritance across a plurality of tables.

8. The method of claim 1 further including the step of

creating a plurality of said interface objects.

9. The method of claim 8 further including the step of creating at least one stateful interface object and at least one stateless interface object.

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*10.* A computer program that operates on a computer to provide access to a relational database for an object oriented software application, comprising:

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a mapping routine that generates a map of at least some relationships between schema in the database and a selected object model;

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a code generator that employs said map to create at least one interface object that corresponds with an object associated with the object oriented software application; and

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a runtime engine that utilizes said at least one interface object to access data from the relational database.

11. The program of claim 10 wherein said mapping routine is operative to map a class attribute to a table column.

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12. The program of claim 10 wherein said mapping routine is operative to map a class attribute to a 1-1 relationship.

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13. The program of claim 10 wherein said mapping routine is operative to map a class attribute to a 1-N relationship, where N is an integer that is greater than 1.

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14. The program of claim 10 wherein said mapping routine is operative to map a class attribute to an N-N relationship, where N is an integer that is greater than 1.

15. The program of claim 10 wherein said mapping routine is operative to map class inheritance to rows within a table.

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16. The program of claim 10 wherein said mapping routine is operative to map class inheritance across a plurality of

tables.

17. The program of claim 10 wherein said code generator is operative to create a plurality of said interface objects.

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18. The program of claim 17 wherein said code generator is operative to create at least one stateful interface object and at least one stateless interface object.

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